

# The Columbus Commercial.

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## CAPT. E. S. DONNELL CALLED BY DEATH

PROMINENT COLUMBIAN DIES AT HOME ON THE MILITARY ROAD.

## HAD HELD MANY POSTS OF TRUST

Served Columbus as Both Mayor and Marshal and Lowndes County as Sheriff.

Capt. E. S. Donnell, marshal, tax collector and inspector of water and sewerage for the city of Columbus, died at his home on the Military Road at two o'clock last Thursday morning, his death having followed an illness of lengthy duration, during which he was carefully nursed by members of a devoted family and was the recipient of many courtesies by his countless loyal friends.

For nearly three decades Capt. Donnell had been prominent in local political and fraternal circles, and few Columbians had as many true and loyal friends as he. During his long public career he had held many positions of trust, having served the city at various times as chief of police, city marshal and mayor and having also served a term as sheriff of Lowndes county. He was almost equally prominent in fraternal circles, having been in quite a young man joined Columbus Lodge No. 5, F. & A. M., and having for many years prior to his death served as secretary of that organization.

Capt. Donnell was 64 years old, and is survived by his widow, two daughters and a son, who have the sympathy of a large circle of friends in the profound grief which his death entails. The funeral took place at the family residence on Military Road at 4 o'clock Thursday afternoon, having been conducted by Rev. W. S. Slack, rector of St. Paul's Episcopal church, assisted by Dr. J. L. Vipperman, pastor of the First Baptist church. Interment was at Friendship cemetery, and Messrs. M. C. Vandiver, T. W. Harris, Sam Wilder, E. R. Hopkins, Brooks McGowan and C. H. Hale officiated as pall bearers, while the flower committee consisted of Mrs. T. W. Harris, Miss Annie Neilson, Miss Elizabeth Leigh and the Misses Brasher.

### Major L. D. Lawton Here.

Maj. L. D. Lawton, of the United States army, was in the city recently in the interests of the officers reserve corps, and while here secured eight recruits, Messrs. C. L. Garnett, M. E. White, Julian Hopkins, Hollis Imes, Leonard Brooks, W. G. Davis, C. S. Brooks and T. E. Lott.

Maj. Lawton remained here only a short time, but will return to Columbus later and will arrange to take these gentlemen to the training station at Little Rock, Ark., where they will go into training.

### Annual "Merry May" Sale.

The people of this section take much pleasure in looking forward to the announcement of Leigh's "Merry May" sale each year, and in this issue of the Commercial will be found a page advertisement stating the fact that this big event will be inaugurated at the "Woman's Store" tomorrow morning. Many special bargains will be offered, and no doubt this store will be crowded each day that the sale is in progress.

### Dr. Hill's Father Dies.

The sad news announcing the death of Rev. F. R. Hill, Sr., of Louisville, Ky., was received here yesterday by his son, Dr. J. S. Hill. Rev. Hill was one of the south's most prominent Methodist divines, and the news of his demise is received here with much regret.

Dr. Hill left the city last night for Louisville to be present at the funeral.

## ABOUT FIFTEEN HUNDRED TEACHERS ARE EXPECTED

FINE PROGRAM IS ANNOUNCED FOR CONVENTION HERE COMING WEEK.

Preparations are well under way for the entertainment of the fifteen hundred school teachers who will attend the annual meeting of the Mississippi State Teachers' Association, which will be held in Columbus May 3, 4, and 5. W. F. Bond, of Jackson, state superintendent of education, and R. H. Watkins, of Laurel, president of the State Teachers' Association, in recent letters to Superintendent W. V. Frierson, of the Columbus schools, state that the attendance this year will no doubt be the largest in the history of the association. The citizens of this city are working together to make the gathering one of the most enjoyable and beneficial ever held by the teachers of Mississippi.

One of the features of the convention will be the departmental meetings. One of the principal departments is the elementary branch, which is headed by Miss Mary Stokes, of this city. She has arranged a most interesting program for her department meeting, which is to be held in the chapel of the Industrial Institute and College.

The following program has been arranged for the general meeting: Thursday, May 3, 8:15 P. M.—First Baptist Church.

Solo, Miss Cora Cook; invocation, Dr. J. L. Vipperman; addresses of welcome, Mayor W. C. Gunter and Mr. P. W. Maer; response to address of welcome, Dr. A. A. Kern; violin solo, Mrs. W. H. Barton; president's address, Supt. R. H. Watkins; address, "Library Service, a Look Ahead," Carl H. Miley; report of committee on necrology, R. P. Linfield; general business; reception of teachers at Industrial Institute and College. At this reception Madame Harriet Labadie will give "Rosalind," a comedy in one act by Barrie.

Friday, May 4, 11 A. M.—College Chapel.

Solo, Miss Annie Terrell Hamilton; report of committee on school law, S. P. Walker; report of committee on public health, J. C. Robert; report of committee on libraries, John Rundle; report of committee on registration, John H. Gullkin; Ibsen's "A Doll House," Madame Harriet Labadie.

Friday, 2 P. M.—First Baptist Church.

Report of committee to act with Federation of Women's Clubs, Miss Meddie Robinson; report of committee on publicity, J. E. Brown; report of committee on course of study, J. S. Vandiver; address, "Every Day Traits of Human Nature," Dr. M. V. O'Shea.

Friday, 8:15 P. M.—First Baptist Church.

Address, Hon. W. F. Bond; address, "Moonlight Schools," Mrs. Cora Wilson Stewart; Kennedy's, "The Servant in the House," Madame Harriet Labadie.

Saturday, May 5, 10 A. M.—First Baptist Church.

Report of nominating committee; address, "The Place of the Denominational Schools in Our Educational System," Dr. J. W. Provine; report of reading circle, H. B. Heideberg; report of committee on educational progress, Miss Susie V. Powell; report of committee on president's address, D. A. Hill; report of special committees; general business; installation of officers.

### Prominent Man Dies.

Mr. William L. Ellis, 89, one of the oldest and best known citizens of Lowndes county, died at his home in the Beersheba neighborhood Friday. He is survived by his widow, five daughters and three sons.

Interment took place at Beersheba cemetery at 2:30 o'clock Saturday afternoon, the funeral having been conducted by Rev. J. E. Caldwell. Eight grandsons of the deceased, Dr. Leon Ellis, Messrs. Joe Ellis, Mayo Ellis, Lettie Ellis, W. T. Ellis, Bennett Ellis, Leslie Ellis and George Ellis, officiated as pall bearers.

## PASSAGE OF ARMY DRAFT BILL SURE

MACHINERY TO SECURE RECRUITS ALREADY SET IN MOTION

## WILL SOON BEGIN TO REGISTER MEN

Encampment Sites Are Tentatively Selected and Training Will be Rushed.

Washington, April 28.—With enactment of the selective draft army bill apparently assured, the war department is preparing to set machinery in motion to produce within two years a trained army of 2,000,000 men. Within 10 days after the bill is signed, every township in the country will be registering its young men for duty and work will have begun on the 16 training camps, where preparation for the forces of the war will start in August or September. Sites for the cantonments have been selected tentatively.

Speedy realization of administration plans will be sought by the department in every move it makes. It is known that registration will be carried on through sheriffs by postmasters or other federal agencies where that seems desirable.

## RED CROSS SOCIETY TO BE BENEFITTED BY SALE

WILL RECEIVE PER CENT OF AMOUNT TAKEN IN THIS WEEK AT LOEB'S.

With encouragement from the different departments of Red Cross work in Columbus, the firm of Simon Loeb and Brother will tomorrow inaugurate a Red Cross Sale, which will not only arouse much interest, but will mean much to the different local organizations which are so earnestly working for the good of the country.

The citizens who purchase goods at this establishment during the week will not only receive merchandise at low prices, but will aid in growing the fund to be received by the Red Cross Society. Loeb's store has been beautifully decorated for the occasion, the color scheme carrying out that of the Red Cross. Large red crosses are displayed in each show window.

### William Turner Enlists.

The following article from a recent issue of the Meridian Star, will be read with much interest here by the many friends of Mr. William Turner, son of Mr. and Mrs. W. S. Turner, who reside in the southern part of the county:

"W. S. Turner, Jr., a young man from Crawford, Miss., came to Meridian Tuesday, and being too late to enlist that day, enlisted in the United States navy next morning."

"Mr. Turner is a nephew of P. S. Hairston, who, it will be recalled, was killed when the American Club in Toronto, Canada, was blown up soon after the great war began. Mr. Hairston was the first American citizen to lose his life because of the war. The American Club was the center of American work and sympathy in Canada, and was blown up and almost completely destroyed by a bomb placed in it by some German plotter."

"Mr. Turner is cousin of the Meridian Hairstons and Harden Brooks."

Mr. Seth A. Meek leaves today for Chicago, where he will spend several weeks with officers of the D. S. Pate Lumber Co. Mr. Meek has been honored by his concern by appointing him as manager of the new office to be opened in Corinth.

## DECORATION DAY CELEBRATED HERE

FLOWERS ARE PLACED ON GRAVES OF DEAD SOLDIERS AT CEMETERY.

## USUAL PROGRAM IS CARRIED OUT

Mr. Owen Furnishes Flowers to Decorate Monument on Court House Square.

Last Thursday was Confederate Memorial Day, and was appropriately celebrated in Columbus, the celebration having taken place under the auspices of the Stephen D. Lee Chapter, United Daughters of the Confederacy, and having been participated in by the members of Isham Harrison Camp No. 27, United Confederate Veterans, and other patriotic citizens.

The procession formed at the city hall at 10:30 o'clock Thursday morning, and proceeded to Friendship cemetery, where the exercises took place. Rev. W. L. Duren, pastor of the First Methodist church, officiated as chaplain, while the music was under the direction of Mrs. Battle K. Sessums, and the following gentlemen served as marshals: Capt. T. H. Sharp, Messrs. W. G. Evans, C. W. Evans, C. H. Cooke, H. H. Gunter, W. B. Harrington and T. B. Hardy.

Not only the graves of the soldiers and the monument at the cemetery but the Confederate monument on the court house square was adorned with flowers, Mr. T. G. Owen having donated 300 calla lilies for that purpose.

The custom of decorating the graves of the soldiers originated in (Continued on page six.)

## HAPPENINGS OF INTEREST GATHERED HERE AND THERE

### GIST OF NEWS FROM OVER THE COUNTRY GIVEN IN A BRIEF FORM.

The torpedoing of an unnamed Scandinavian steamship with the loss as all on board except Captain Karlstein Olsen, is reported in a Reuter dispatch from Christiansia.

The discovery of a new comet on Tuesday morning is reported in a Reuter dispatch from Melbourne, Australia.

Street car space for advertising the war bond issue in the principal cities of the country has been offered free to the government by Barron G. Collier, of New York.

John P. White, president of the United Mine Workers of America, has announced that 175,000 miners and clerks employed in the anthracite fields in Pennsylvania have petitioned their employers for an increase in wages equal to that granted the bituminous coal miners at from 20 to 33 1-3 per cent, but compromised on an average of 20 per cent.

An appeal to the farmers to increase the production of corn in the United States to the fullest extent this year in order to meet the increased demand resulting from the war emergency has been made in a statement issued by Secretary Houston of the department of agriculture.

Full and hearty support of Catholic people for the government in the war is pledged in a communication to President Wilson, prepared by Catholic Archbishops of the United States.

### Swain's Show Coming.

Mr. Ted Galbraith is spending several days in the city advertising for W. I. Swain Shows, which will be in Columbus for one week, beginning May 7. Nearly all people here have attended Swain's shows in years gone by, and are delighted with the fact that they will again be seen here.

## MCCULLOUGH HEADS O. E. S. OF STATE

NAMED STATE GRAND PATRON AT MEETING IN NATCHEZ LAST WEEK.

## LOCAL CHAPTER WILL ENTERTAIN

Most Worthy Matron of United States, Mrs. Emma Oco- back to Visit City Monday.

At the annual meeting of the members of the Order of Eastern Star of Mississippi, held the past week in Natchez, Mr. D. F. McCullough, of this city, past worthy patron, was highly honored by being elected state grand patron.

Columbus will have a distinguished visitor tomorrow evening, when Mrs. Emma Oco-back, of Michigan, most worthy matron of the Order of Eastern Star of the United States, Panama, Canada and Porto Rico, will be here as the guest of members of Columbus Chapter, No. 66, Order of Eastern Star.

Tomorrow evening at 8 o'clock, the members of the local chapter will entertain in honor of Mrs. Oco-back and Mr. McCullough, at the Masonic temple. A musical program has been arranged and refreshments will be served.

## DIRECTORATE DECIDES TO POSTPONE CENTENNIAL

EXPOSITION AT GULFPORT WILL NOT OPEN UNTIL FEBRUARY, 1919.

Jackson, Miss., April 28.—The Mississippi Centennial Exposition, scheduled to open at Gulfport Dec. 10, will be postponed for about 15 months, by which time the commissioners hope to jointly celebrate the state's one hundredth birthday and a world peace jubilee.

A decision to this effect was reached by the executive committee in session at Gulfport recently, and will be submitted to the centennial commission at its sitting. It will no doubt be adopted by that body.

The question of postponement has been under consideration ever since the issuance of President Wilson's address on practical preparedness, containing a clause suggesting the postponement or setting aside of celebrations while the nation is preparing for war, and it was chiefly because of this suggestion that the executive committee reached its decision. A canvass made among the other commissioners shows that they are practically unanimous for postponement.

Details for continuing the work of preparation during the next two years will be arranged. It is understood that Director-General H. E. Bleslee, who resigned the commissioner-ship of agriculture to take up the work of planning the state's birthday celebration, has voluntarily offered to cancel his own salary for one year.

The work of erecting the exposition buildings is making steady progress, nearly all contracting firms being 30 days ahead of their contracts. It is probable that building operations will continue until all exterior work is completed and the various structures under roof, and the force of landscape gardeners will continue their activities and transform the exposition grounds into a bower of beauty prior to the new opening date, which will probably be fixed for Feb. 22, 1919.

The meeting of the U. D. C., which was to be held next Friday, has been postponed until the following week on account of the teachers' convention to be held here.

## PATRIOTIC RESOLUTIONS ADOPTED BY LOCAL NEGROES

MEMBERS OF RACE HOLD ENTHUSIASTIC MEETING AT BAPTIST CHURCH.

With the view of attesting their patriotism and willingness to serve the government in its time of need, negroes of Columbus last Thursday held a meeting at the Missionary Union Baptist church on North 5th avenue, and adopted a resolution pledging themselves to serve the government in any manner that its officials may deem necessary to best conserve its welfare.

The meeting was opened by the singing of "America," and besides talks by pastors of the various negro churches and other well known colored men participating therein there were addresses by three prominent white citizens, Prof. Dabney Lipscomb, vice-president of the Mississippi Industrial Institute and College, Rev. W. L. Duren, pastor of the First Methodist church, and Dr. J. W. Lipscomb, a well known physician.

Prof. Dabney Lipscomb took for his theme the address which President Wilson recently delivered to Congress, impressing upon the negroes the fact that, as pointed out by the president, the best way in which they can help their country is by staying at home and working hard in fields and shops to produce food and other necessities for the soldiers who are fighting at the front.

Following Prof. Lipscomb's address the negroes adopted a resolution promising to be guided by the advice of President Wilson and to devote their energies towards the improvement of health and morals among members of the race and to the production of more abundant food crops. The resolution follows:

Whereas, a crisis in the history of our beloved country and the civilized world now confronts us; and the peace, prosperity, and liberty of this and all other lands depend on the outcome of the world war in which the United States is now actively engaged;

Whereas, the president of the United States in his great proclamation to the American people on April 13th, clearly setting before them their gigantic task, appeals to every citizen of the nation to help to the utmost to solve the many problems that face us, as we enter a terrible war "for the rights of mankind and the future peace and security of the world"; and

Whereas, we deem it right and proper in this solemn and critical hour of our national history that suitable and unequivocal expression be made of our patriotism and willingness to serve our state and nation in every way possible; in response to the sacred obligations of citizenship and the call to service by the president, we the negro citizens of Columbus and Lowndes county in mass meeting assembled, adopt the following resolutions:

1. Resolved, That in compliance with the wise counsels and exhortations of the great leaders of the nation of both the white and the negro race, we shall endeavor quietly and earnestly to perform whatever duties, and make whatever sacrifices the safety and welfare of our country may require of us; and that we shall endeavor to instill this spirit of patriotic service into the minds and hearts of all our people; so that when the history of this greatest of wars is written the record may be clear that negroes as well as whites enlisted nobly in the great "Service Army" of the nation, and by faithfulness at the posts assigned to them contributed to the glorious victory for safety and democracy throughout the world.

2. That while we are willing to serve whenever and wherever called we appreciate the fact that in helping to make the food and clothing and in transporting the goods needed by this and friendly nations we can most promptly and effectively assist in bringing to a speedy and happy termination this horrible world war. Hence, we approve and pledge ourselves to co-operate heartily in the campaign planned for greater in-

## 120 MEN TRAPPED IN COLORADO MINE

TERRIFIC GAS EXPLOSION ENTOMBS MANY MINERS AT TRINIDAD.

## RESCUE SQUADS ARE NOW AT WORK

Little Hope, However, of Finding Any of the Unfortunate Men Alive.

Trinidad, Col., April 28.—Hope that any of the 120 men thought to be entombed in the Hastings mine, near here may be rescued was abandoned by rescuing crews. The men were caught behind a wall of fire which followed an explosion yesterday morning and cannot be reached.

The first bodies of victims have been found by the rescue squads, according to Charles Dalrymple, chief inspector of the state mining bureau. He said the rescuers have penetrated 2000 feet into the workings.

"One hundred and eighteen men are behind the fire and there is little chance of reaching them," Dalrymple reported.

The only means of communication between Trinidad and Hastings is a single telephone wire which has been crowded with official messages relating to rescue work.

Hastings is a Victor-American Fuel Company camp about 20 miles from here.

### Wilson Thanks Veterans.

Hon. James T. Harrison, commander of Isham Harrison Camp, United Confederate Veterans, is in receipt of the following letter from President Wilson, thanking the members of the local camp, U. C. V., for the resolutions recently sent him by them:

"My Dear Mr. Harrison: The resolutions passed by the Confederate Veterans' Camp at Columbus the other day have touched me very deeply and I want through you to express to the members of the camp my very deep and sincere appreciation, in which I am sure I am expressing also the feeling of every thoughtful citizen."

"Cordially and sincerely yours," "Woodrow Wilson."

### Report of Haig.

London, April 28.—Field Marshal Haig, in his official statement from British headquarters in France last night, says there is nothing of special interest to report.

Aerial activity was intense on Thursday, British aviators bringing down seven German airplanes, while six others were driven down out of control.

### Mosby Goes to Navy.

Mr. George Mosby, son of Mr. D. W. Mosby, who for some time past has held a most responsible position at the Southern Railway shops in this city, was successful in a recent government examination which he stood and left Friday for Philadelphia, where he will at present hold a place as machinist in the naval yard there.

Mr. Hal F. Case, of West Point, was a visitor to the city last week.

Increase of food products by our national and state departments of agriculture.

3. That in the preservation of good order and the general effort of the citizens of this town and county to keep business as prosperous and as nearly normal as possible under the circumstances, we heartily concur and urge every good negro citizen of the county to lend his fullest aid and influence. Also, to town and country campaigns looking to better health and morals, larger food crops and better and safer conditions of life generally, we pledge our hearty and constant co-operation.

4. That a copy of these resolutions be furnished to our city papers with request for publication.